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TO:
President/CEO Lawrence Johnston, Albertsons

Dear President/CEO Lawrence Johnston:

I am writing to urge you to stop carrying irradiated meat, and not to carry other irradiated products in the future. As your customer, I demand and deserve fresh, wholesome, safe food that has been grown and processed in clean environments, not food processed using a questionable technology. My family and community will not be persuaded by your marketing claims.

Consumers do not want to eat food that has been exposed to high doses of ionizing radiation, as previous test marketing efforts have shown. In 2001, citing poor sales and low consumer interest, more than 80 grocery stores and meat markets in Florida, California, and Wisconsin pulled irradiated beef products from their shelves.

Irradiated food has not been proven safe to eat! It not only degrades the nutritional content of food, but research has revealed a wide range of health problems in animals that ate irradiated food including premature death, fatal internal bleeding, cancer, reproductive problems, genetic damage, organ malfunctions and nutritional deficiencies.

Furthermore, I adamantly oppose the importation of irradiated fruits and vegetables, and implore you NOT to carry irradiated produce in the future. Imported irradiated fruits and vegetables are both nutritionally deficient and grown in questionable environments. In addition, a number of countries that export fruits and vegetables to the US do not have any maximum dosage level for irradiated foods. Therefore, you may end up selling food that is essentially illegal, since it has been irradiated up to 5 times the US legal limit.

If you truly care about the community and aspire to provide quality food, then you should use your chain's buying power to pressure your suppliers to adopt safe, sustainable production practices. I urge you to remove irradiated meat from your stores and keep irradiated produce out of them.

Sincerely,

Maria Dominguez